for participation in power generation and distribution has been initiated in 1991 and is currently under implementation. The policy encourages private investment in the power sector from both domestic and international investors and offers attractive returns for the same. The response of the private sector to the policy, at the present stage, is encouraging.

Health hazards due to fly-ash generated by Inderprastha Power Plant

2133. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the huge quantity of fly-ash generated by the Inderprastha Power Plant is posing serious health hazards in the city;

(b) if so, the existing arrangements for the disposal of the fly-ash generated by the power plant; and

(c) the measures contemplated by Government to solve the problem of its disposal to minimise its adverse affects on the health of the citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Indraprastha Thermal Power Station produces around 15,000 to 20,000 MT of fly-ash per month The fly-ash generated by the power station is disposed of in the form of slurry and is deposited in the ash pond area near the power station. In these ash ponds, the fly ash is allowed to settle down and the decanted water is allowed to flow into river Yamuna. The semi-dry fly ash is transported in trucks for land filling in low line areas allotted by Delhi Development Authority (DDA). The Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) has a proposal to set up a plant for making bricks for utilisation of fly ash. The proposal is under study with the Fly-Ash Mission under the Department of Science & Technology.

Electrostatic Precipitators (EPs) have been installed in the five units of Indraprastha Power Station. Except in the case of Unit No. 5, the emission levels in the case of all other units are within the prescribed limit of 150mg/Nmg DVB is taking action to rectify the position at Unit 5.

Government's instruction to in-principle clearance to power projects

2134. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any instructions to give 'In-principle clearance' to nodel agency for the power projects before putting it on the competitive bid; details thereof;

(b) whether the Central Electricity Authority has received any proposal for 'in-principle clearance' to Pipavav Power project from Government of Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the necessary clearance has been given; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The proposal for 'in-principle clearance' (IPC) to Pipavav dual fuel based power station (615 MW) was received by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) from M/s. Gujarat Power

Corporation Limited (GPCL). The IPC of CEA is accorded only to the Generating company who executes the project to facilitate them in tying up of various inputs including finances. As M/s. GPCL was not the executing agency of the project and were still to identify the party for executing the project, the 'In-principle clearance' as requested by them could not be accorded and the proposal was returned in October, 1996. However, issue of regarding grant of 'in-principle' clearance before putting power projects on competitive bidding is being examined in Government again.

Constitution of Delhi Vidyut Board

2135. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether constitution of Delhi Vidyut Board has some objectives;

(b) if so, details thereof with additional advantages provided to Delhi consumers since its inception in addition to already available with existence of DESU;

(c) whether Delhi Vidyut Board propose more facilities to its consumers in future;

(d) whether Delhi Vidyut Board also propose to ensure regular availability of power to each domestic light consumers and not resorting to power cut or load shedding on any reasons;

(e) whether the D.V.B. proposed to make surprise checks in all colonies of Delhi to detect illegal use of air-conditioners in phased manner every month; and

(f) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Vidyut Board has been constituted w.e.f. 24-2-1997 on the pattern of Electricity Boards in other States, replacing DESU, with an objective of providing better services to consumers. Delhi Vidyut Board has informed that they have taken number of steps to streamline the procedures for grant of electric connections. Special attention is also being paid, according to the Board to other areas like improvement in consumer services, providing stable power supply, increase in revenue realisation and reduction in T&D losses.

(c) As per information given by the Delhi Vidyut Board, they are simplifying procedures for providing more facilities to the consumers.

(d) The availability of power in Delhi during the current summer months has been satisfactory by and large and the Delhi Vidyut Board met the demand of power of 2149 MW in Delhi during June, 1997. However, there had been load shedding in June, 1997 due to constraints in the transmission and distribution network of the Delhi Vidyut Board and on some occasions due to low voltage and low frequency conditions. On account of these reasons, there was load shedding of 10 MU against total energy consumption of 1330 MU in June, 1997.

(e) and (f) As per information given by the Delhi Vidyut Board, they carry out surprise checks to detect the illegal use of air-conditioners and take necessary action against the defaulters for the violations.

Appeal by DVB to Delhi consumers

2136. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Vidyut Board through its advertisement on 17th July, 1997 has appealed to Delhi Consumers